



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CRACK COCAINE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possessing crack cocaine with the intent to distribute.

William K. Harris, also known as Dough Boy, 30, of Independence, waived his right to an indictment and pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to a federal information that charges him with possessing more than 50 grams of crack cocaine with the intent to distribute on Aug. 18, 2005.

By pleading guilty today, **Harris** admitted that he sold crack cocaine to a confidential source in July and August 2005, leading to a search warrant being obtained for his residence. Law enforcement officers found 77 grams of crack cocaine in a safe in **Harris'** bedroom. He also had seven grams of crack cocaine in his possession when he was arrested. **Harris** admitted that he intended to sell this crack cocaine to others.

Under federal statutes, **Harris** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life imprisonment without parole, plus a fine up to \$4 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html